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LUNAR ECLIPSE, AUGUST 22, 1896.

By Allen H. Babcock.

A heavy fog which rolled in over San Francisco and Oakland early in the evening, prevented any chance of observing the eclipse at either place. As a last resort it was decided to climb Chaparral Hill (1920 feet high), directly in the rear of the University of California, Berkeley, in the hope of getting above the fog. The result was all that could be desired, except that during the first contact with the shadow and for some few minutes after, light fleecy clouds made the Moon's image a little hazy. The first contact was observed with a pair of marine glasses of fairly high power and good definition. Mr. B. H. Pendleton counted time, and the shadow was first seen at $9^h\ 24^m$ P. S. T., nearly thirty seconds before predicted time. (See also Mr. Perrine's time of first contact with shadow). At first the shadow showed simply as a darkening of the surface, no definite color being apparent, but as the eclipse progressed, the upper part of the shadow, that part toward the illuminated region of the Moon's surface, assumed a decided greenish tinge, while below, toward the center of the shadow, it was a bright copper color, shading off darker toward the south edge of the Moon. At $11^h\ 30^m$ the greenish band was about one-third the total diameter of the eclipsed segment, and ran across roughly parallel to the uneclipsed lune, with the western edge slightly wider than the eastern. The scene was strikingly beautiful. Only the hill-top we were occupying showed above the fog, as far as could be seen to the south and west, while only Tamalpais showed to the north. There was just enough wind to pile up the upper surface of the fog into big pop-corn like masses, and occasionally send a wisp of it across the summit. It remained about two hundred feet below us until about $11^h\ 45^m$, when it began to blow over in earnest, and we left to catch the last car into Oakland.